

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-25, 29 and 31-32, without prejudice.

Please amend Claim 26 as follows.

1-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) A process of manufacturing cellulose acetate, the process comprising:

steaming a material selected from one or more of bagasse, kenaf, reeds and rice straw in a pressure vessel in a sub-critical state at a temperature of about 150 to 350°C. and a pressure of about 15 to 29 MPa for about 10 to 30 minutes to obtain a mixture of a solid product and a solution product, wherein the solid product comprises cellulose, wherein the solution product comprises soluble hemicelluloses and polyphenol converted from lignin separated from lignocelluloses, and wherein the sub-critical state is such that the solid product and the solution product are obtained from the material solely due to the temperature and pressure conditions of the state;

filtering the steamed material mixture with a filtering device to obtain a to separate the solid product; and

dehydrating and acetylating the solid product by adding in the presence of acetic anhydride and sulfuric acid to obtain cellulose acetate from the solid product.

27. (Original) The process of claim 26, wherein the steaming is performed at a temperature of about 150 to 250°C and a pressure of about 15 to 25 MPa, respectively.

28. (Original) The process of claim 26, wherein the steaming is performed at a temperature of about 180 to 200°C. and a pressure of about 25 to 28 MPa, respectively.

29. (Cancelled)

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30. (Original) The process of claim 26, wherein the steaming is performed for about 15 to 20 minutes.

31-32. (Cancelled)